Official NCAA FOOTBALL Guide

1955

Joe Childress
Auburn

$1

season of 1954, are back again. Michigan is already claiming All-America honors for Ron Kramer, who doubled in basketball beautifully the past winter.

Iowa expects a third successive standout season out of Calvin Jones, the 230-pound guard, and Purdue is shooting for a high spot on the throwing of Leonard Dawson, a sensational success in 1954 as a sophomore.

Down South, Auburn's fine team speed and fullback Joe Childress can mean a championship if the Plainsmen can lick the slow start. Auburn dropped three quick ones in 1954, then battled back to a Gator Bowl bid where it lashed Baylor with a devastating attack. Kentucky has a nimble senior quarterback, Bob Hardy, who can be as good as any in the country.

The 1954 season revealed these youngsters as the All-Americans of 1955—unless some better ones come along. Never before has there been so many good football teams competing for top honors; it follows, of course, that the harvest will be a bumper crop of stars.

Also in good post positions are such top performers as Don Holleder of Army, Art Luppino of Arizona, Steve DeLaTorre of Florida, Franklin Brooks of Georgia Tech, Bo Bolinger of Oklahoma, Whitey Rouviere of Miami (Fla.), John Marshall of SMU, Fred Wyant of West Virginia and many others.

The long-range view would indicate that four teams will fight it out for the national title—Notre Dame, UCLA, Maryland and Oklahoma. Only a step behind will come a dozen others, and behind them a dozen others, each a worthy foe.

Hail to the champion!

NATIONAL CHAMPIONS, 1924-1954

Ohio State and UCLA go into the record books as college football's national co-champions for 1954. It's the first time in history the press association polls, representing the opinions of sports writers and coaches, have been unable to agree on a team as the unofficial title winner. The Associated Press (writers) named the Buckeyes. The United Press (coaches) gave it to the Bruins.

AP originated the poll idea in 1936 and the UP has joined in the fun annually since 1950. Both polls reflect the combined judgements of observers in all sections of the country and have come to be the most popularly recognized bases for the mythical award.

Prior to the polls, the Rissman and Knute Rockne trophies, symbolic of the national title, were awarded annually from 1924 to 1936.

The national champions for all 31 years:

1954—Ohio St., UCLA	1946—Notre Dame	1938—Tex. Christian	1930—Notre Dame
1953—Maryland	1945—Army	1937—Pittsurgh	1929—Notre Dame
1952—Michigan State	1944—Army	1936—Minnesota	1928—So. California
1951—Tennessee	1943—Notre Dame	1935—So. Methodist	1927—Illinois
1950—Oklahoma	1942—Ohio State	1934—Minnesota	1926—Stanford
1949—Notre Dame	1941—Minnesota	1933—Michigan	1925—Dartmouth
1948—Michigan	1940—Minnesota	1932—Michigan	1924—Notre Dame
1947—Notre Dame	1939—Texas A&M	1931—So. California	

NATIONAL RATINGS, 1936-1954

In a composite picture of the press association polls for the past 19 years, Notre Dame emerges as the No. 1 team by a wide margin. Counting 10 points for each first place rating, 9 for second and so on, the Irish have accumulated 101 points to 62 for second-place Michigan. The 19-year leaders:

1. Notre Dame .101	5. Tennessee .. 53	9. Alabama ... 31	13. So. California 25
2. Michigan ... 62	6. Minnesota .. 40	10. California .. 30	13. Georgia Tech 25
3. Oklahoma .. 55	7. Ohio State .. 34	10. Mich. State . 30	15. Duke 24
4. Army 54	8. U.C.L.A. .. 32	12. Navy 29	16. Texas 23